

CLAIMS:

1. A device (10) for accelerating the interpretation of a program in interpreted language, said program comprising an intermediate code which can be executed by a virtual machine in the form of successive tasks, said device comprising routing means (13) able to extract a current intermediate code from a memory (11) in order to load it into storage means (16), characterized in that the routing means (13) are able to inhibit the extraction of the current intermediate code and to load into the storage means (16) a reserved intermediate code intended to effect a saving of a context of the virtual machine, during a request for a change of task.
2. A device (10) for accelerating the interpretation of a program in interpreted language as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the routing means (13) comprise a routing counter (21) initialized to a predetermined value corresponding to the number of current intermediate codes to be processed between two successive changes of task and decremented whenever a current intermediate code is extracted from the memory (17), the reserved intermediate code being loaded into the storage means (16) when the routing counter (21) has the value zero.
3. A device (10) for accelerating the interpretation of a program in interpreted language as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the routing means (13) comprise an interrupt register (24) able to be activated during a request for a change of task so that the reserved intermediate code is loaded into the storage means (16).
4. An apparatus able to execute programs according to an interpreted language and comprising a device as claimed in one of Claims 1 to 3 for accelerating the interpretation of the interpreted language.